Robots and Capabilities Classification

Public Forum

Craig Schlenoff 5/13/2005

Outline

- Goal
- What is an Ontology?
- Benefits of Having An Ontology
- Ontology Infrastructure
 - OWL/OWL-S
 - Protégé
- Ontology Organization
 - Structural Characteristics
 - Functional Capabilities
 - Operational Considerations
- The Robot Ontology
- What's Next

Goal

- To develop and begin to populate a neutral knowledge representation capturing relevant information about robots and their capabilities to assist in the development, testing, and certification of effective technologies for search and rescue robot systems
- Future efforts will develop knowledge representations for building and collapse types (to be discussed in the next presentation)

What Is An Ontology?

- "a specification of a conceptualization"
- Ontologies represent key concepts, their properties, their relationships, and their rules and constraints.
- Ontologies often focus more heavily on the meaning of concepts as opposed to terms that are used to represent them
- Vocabulary + Structure = Taxonomy
- Taxonomy + (Relationships and Constraints) = Ontology
- Ontologies:
 - Bring meaning to data
 - Make different relationships explicit
 - Allows computers to use semantic relationships

Benefits of Having An Ontology

- Less ambiguity in term usage & understanding
- Explicit representation of all knowledge, without hidden assumptions
- Conformance to commonly-used standards
- Availability of the knowledge source to other domains outside of urban search and rescue
- Availability of a wide variety of tools (reasoning engines, consistency checkers, etc.)

Ontology Infrastructure: OWL / OWL-S

OWL

W3C Recommendation 10 February 2004

 Defines terms commonly used in creating a model of an object or process (i.e., an ontology)

Class/Subclass

Property/Subproperty

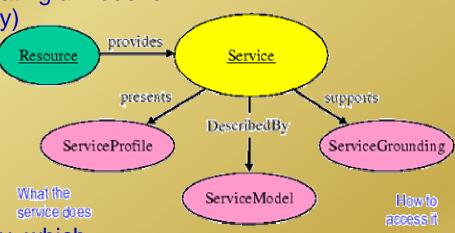
Property Restrictions

Individual

http://www.w3.org/2001/sw/WebOnt/

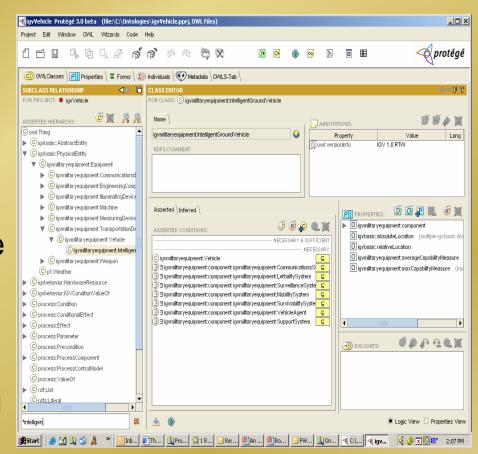
OWL-S

- An OWL-based Web service ontology, which
 describes the properties and capabilities of services in
 an unambiguous, computer-interpretable form.
- Developed by the DARPA Agent Markup Language (DAML) Program
- OWL-S is an upper ontology intended to be extended to meet specific applications
- http://www.daml.org/services/owl-s/1.0/



Ontology Infrastructure: Protégé

- An open source ontology editor developed at Stanford University.
- Supports: Class and property definitions and relationships, Property restrictions, Instance generation, Queries
- Accommodates plug-ins (actively being developed)
- http://protege.stanford.edu/download.html



Related Knowledge Representation Efforts

- Efforts at University of Electro-Communications in Tokyo, Japan to determine the information requirements for a US&R ontology
- Efforts at SPAWAR to develop a Mobile Robot Knowledge Base
- Efforts at CRASAR to develop taxonomies for robot failures and issues pertaining to social interactions between robots and humans

Initial Ontology Organization*

- Structural Characteristics describes the physical and structural aspects of a robot
- Functional Capabilities describes the behavioral features of the robot
- Operational Considerations describes the interactions of the robot with the human and the interoperability with other robots

Structural Characteristics

- Size
- Weight
- Tethering
- Power Source
- Locomotion Mechanism (wheeled, walking, crawling, jumping, flying, etc.)
- Sensors (camera, FLIR, LADAR, SONAR, GPS, Audio, Temperature Sensor)
- Processors
- •

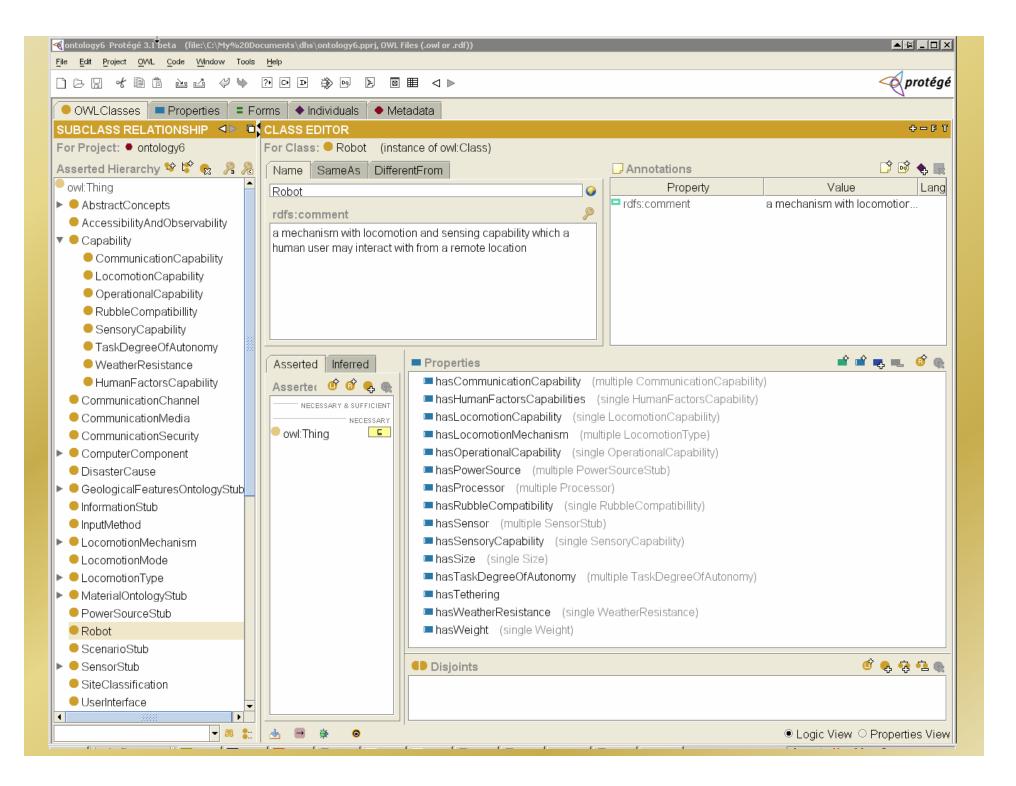
Functional Capabilities

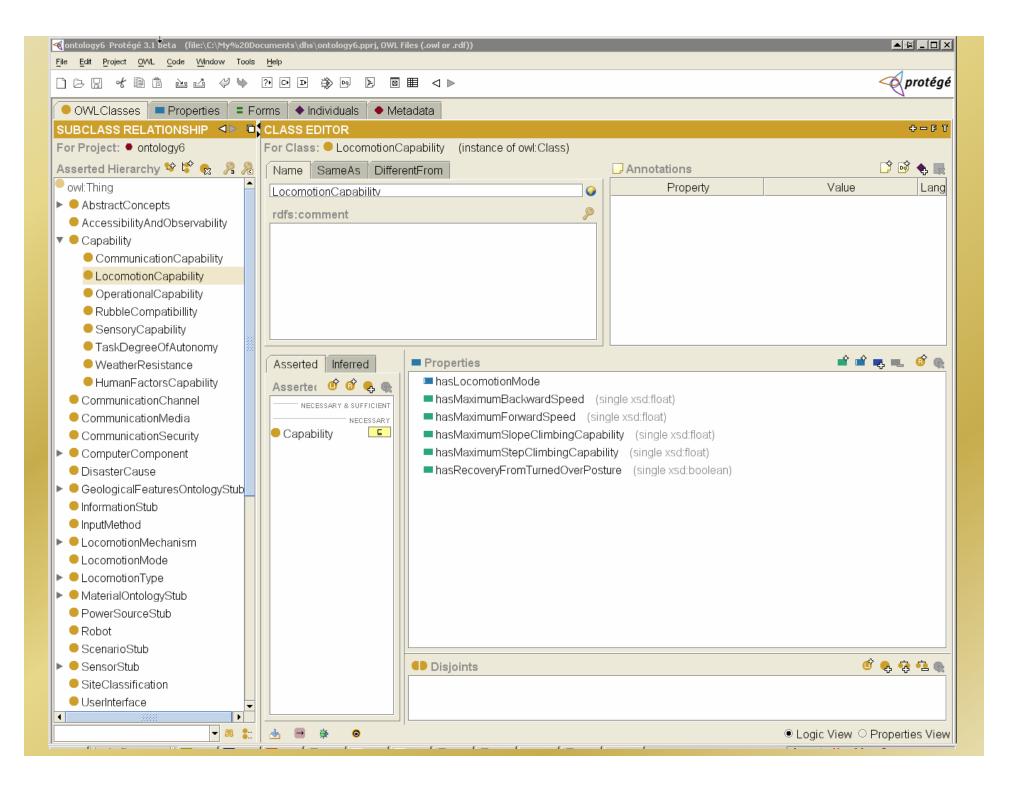
- Locomotion Capabilities (e.g., max speed, max step climbing, max slope climbing, etc.)
- Sensory Capabilities (e.g., min visibility level, map building capability, self localization, system health, etc.)
- Operational Capabilities (e.g., working time, setup time, max force available to push, MTBF, MTBM, required tools for maintenance, run time indicator, sustainment (spares and supplies), etc.)
- Weather Resistance (e.g., max operating temp, max submergability level, etc.)
- **Degree of Autonomy** (e.g., joint level dependency, drive level dependency, navigation level dependency, etc.)
- Rubble Compatibility (e.g., ability to historically operate well in certain terrains)
- Communications (e.g., comm media, comm channel frequency, content standards, information content, comm locking, comm encryption)

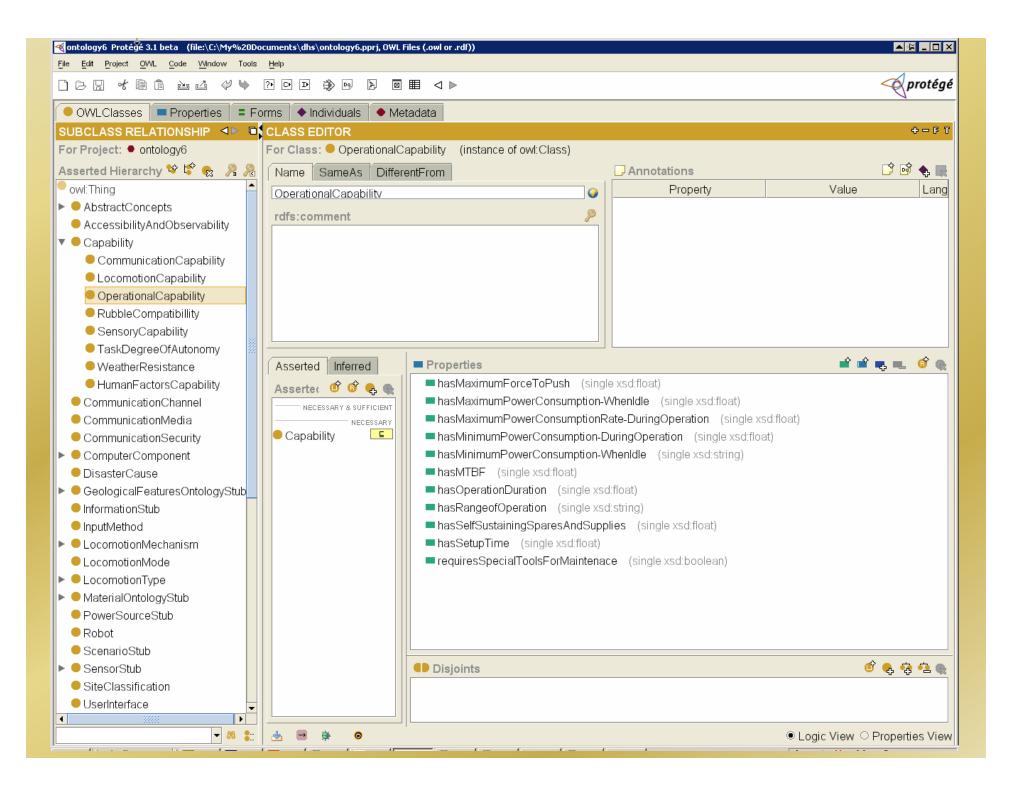
•

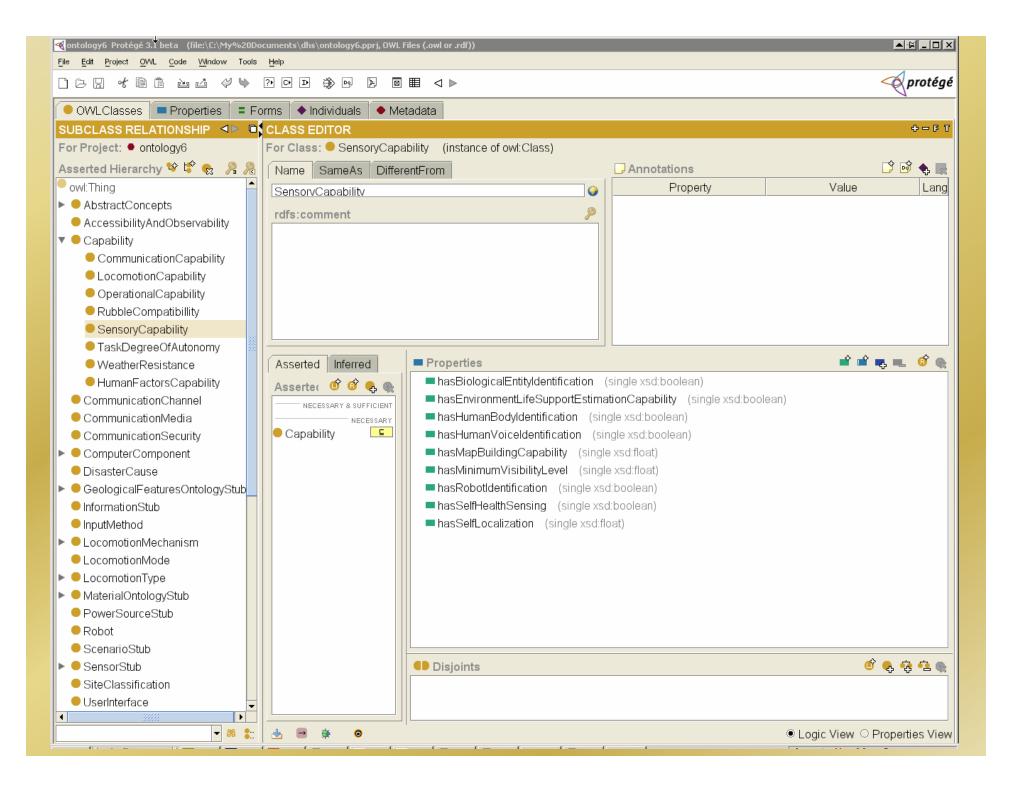
Operational Considerations

- Human Factors (operator ratio, initial training, proficiency education, acceptable usability, auto-notification, display type, packaging size)
- Intra-Group Interaction (i.e., interaction with other similar robots)
- Inter-Group Interaction (i.e., interaction with other 3rd party robots or computers)









Robot Ontology Metrics

- 230 classes
- 245 slots (attributes)
- 180 instances

What's Next

- Continue to provide greater detail in the robot ontology
- Explore leveraging other standards efforts and ontologies
 - Sensors
 - Power Source
 - Materials
 - Environment
- Continue to incorporate the requirements from the requirements workshops into the ontology
- Explore the incorporating reasoning engines
- Develop ontologies for building and collapse types